

KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

August 13, 2002

Motion 11488

Proposed No. 2002-0309.2

Sponsors Lambert

1 A MOTION authorizing the executive to enter into a
2 project cooperation agreement with the United States Army
3 Corps of Engineers to address flood hazards in and around
4 the city of Snoqualmie; and authorizing the executive to
5 enter into an interlocal agreement with the city of
6 Snoqualmie to share local sponsorship responsibilities
7 under the project cooperation agreement.

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10 WHEREAS, flooding has severely and repeatedly damaged hundreds of homes
11 and businesses within and around the city of Snoqualmie, which has the highest
12 concentration of flood-prone structures in King County, and area flooding causes
13 economic damages averaging more than one million six hundred thousand dollars per
14 year, and

15 WHEREAS, King County has constructed and maintains levee systems to protect
16 other flood-prone communities in the Snoqualmie River Basin, but study has shown that

17 physical constraints in the Snoqualmie area prevent similar levee construction in that
18 community, and

19 WHEREAS, in 1988 the United States Army Corps of Engineers ("USACE")
20 proposed a channel widening/overbank excavation project along the Snoqualmie River to
21 reduce the depth and frequency of flooding in and around the city of Snoqualmie, and this
22 project would have disturbed one and eight-tenths miles of river channel and cleared
23 seventy-one acres of riparian forest, creating unacceptable environmental impacts, and

24 WHEREAS, in 1989 King County adopted the Snoqualmie Valley Community
25 Plan, which states that "achieving a long-term solution to flood damages within the city
26 of Snoqualmie is one of King County's highest priorities for this planning area," and sets
27 forth additional policy guidance as to how this solution should be achieved, and

28 WHEREAS, in 1993 King County adopted the Flood Hazard Reduction Plan
29 ("FHRP"), which identified the flood problems in and around the city of Snoqualmie as a
30 high priority, and recommended hydraulic studies to help narrow the scope of the
31 Snoqualmie channel-widening/overbank excavation project in order to reduce the
32 project's adverse impacts, and

33 WHEREAS, in 1996, the city of Snoqualmie and King County completed the
34 hydraulic studies proposed in the FHRP, using cost share contributions from Puget Sound
35 Energy and the Weyerhaeuser Company, and the studies identified the most effective
36 portions of the prior proposal, and

37 WHEREAS, in 1996 the city of Snoqualmie and King County entered an
38 interlocal agreement to share local sponsorship responsibilities and costs for feasibility
39 studies by the USACE based on the new hydraulic findings, and

40 WHEREAS, in 1996 the USACE and King County entered a Federal Cost Share
41 Agreement for completion of feasibility studies by the USACE, and

42 WHEREAS, feasibility studies by the USACE found that a reduced channel-
43 widening/overbank excavation project would greatly reduce the frequency and severity of
44 flood damages in the Snoqualmie area while lessening the adverse environmental impacts
45 of the project as originally conceived, and

46 WHEREAS, in 1999, King County expressed intent to satisfy local
47 responsibilities for implementation of the reduced channel-widening/overbank excavation
48 project ("project"), in partnership with the city of Snoqualmie, and

49 WHEREAS, the USACE has completed right-of-way and design plans for the
50 project and is prepared to implement the project in cooperation with local sponsors under
51 a project cooperation agreement ("PCA"), and

52 WHEREAS, the city of Carnation and landowners downstream of the project have
53 expressed concerns that the project would worsen their flood problems, and the USACE
54 has determined that the project could cause a slight increase of one-tenth foot or less to
55 downstream flooding depths in a one-hundred-year flood event, and

56 WHEREAS, to address the downstream flooding issues the project includes a
57 downstream assistance program, to be administered by King County, that would provide
58 grant funds to cost share with downstream landowners to help them pay the costs of
59 elevating downstream homes and other downstream structures above one-hundred-year
60 flood levels and to take other flood protection and prevention measures, and

61 WHEREAS, project implementation costs are estimated at three million eight
62 hundred thirty thousand dollars, including three hundred twenty-eight thousand five

63 hundred dollars for the downstream assistance program, of which the USACE will pay
64 two million two hundred twenty thousand dollars from federal funds under terms of the
65 PCA, leaving a local cost share requirement of approximately one million six hundred ten
66 thousand dollars, and

67 WHEREAS, King County is designated as the non-federal sponsor for the
68 purposes of entering into the PCA with the USACE, and

69 WHEREAS, King County and the city of Snoqualmie, under a separate interlocal
70 agreement, propose to share in the financial and other responsibilities of local
71 sponsorship for the project under the PCA, and

72 WHEREAS, clearly defined roles, responsibilities and decision-making
73 frameworks are critical to the successful funding, management and maintenance of
74 complex construction projects involving multiple parties, and

75 WHEREAS, article V of the PCA references a project management plan to be
76 developed by the USACE after consultation with the local sponsor, and

77 WHEREAS, the project management plan provides a mechanism to clarify the
78 roles and responsibilities of the USACE, King County and the city of Snoqualmie, and to
79 define collaborative approaches to resolving issues that may arise related to unexpected
80 site conditions, change orders and cost overruns, and

81 WHEREAS, the adopted 2002 budget for the water and land resources division
82 includes capital improvement project number 047101, Snoqualmie river section 205
83 flood hazard reduction project, with river improvement fund appropriations for King
84 County's share of these local costs, and

85 WHEREAS, it is anticipated that the project will mutually benefit both the city of
86 Snoqualmie and King County, preventing an estimated eight hundred thirty-seven
87 thousand dollars in average annual flood damages to the Snoqualmie area both within and
88 outside the city, and will provide invaluable and long-term public health and safety
89 benefits by reducing the depth of flood water;

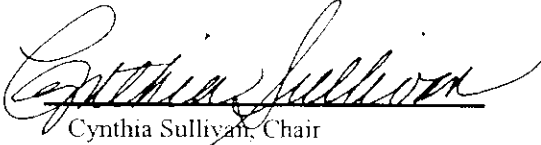
90 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:

91 The King County executive is authorized to enter into a project cooperation
92 agreement with the United States Army Corps of Engineers in substantially the same
93 form as Attachment A to this motion for construction of the Snoqualmie river section 205
94 flood damage reduction project if King County, the city of Snoqualmie and the USACE
95 have reached agreement on the project management plan before execution of the PCA.
96 The King County executive is further authorized to enter into an interlocal agreement
97 with the city of Snoqualmie in substantially the same form as Attachment B to this

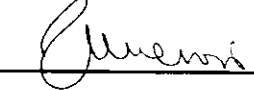
98 motion for cooperatively fulfilling local sponsorship responsibilities for the Snoqualmie
99 river section 205 flood damage reduction project.

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KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON


Cynthia Sullivan, Chair

ATTEST:


Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

Attachments A. Interlocal Agreement between King County and the City of Snoqualmie for Cost Sharing of US Army Corps of Engineers Section 205 Snoqualmie River Flood Control Project, dated July 23, 2002, B. Draft Project Cooperation Agreement between the Department of the Army and King County, Washington for Construction of the Snoqualmie River Section 205 Flood Damage Reduction Project, dated July 23, 2002

